

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-36 (canceled)

37. (currently amended) A peptide selected from AMASTEGNV (SEQ ID NO:10) or LQNLARTI (SEQ ID NO:12).

38. (currently amended) A vaccine comprising at least one peptide according to claim [[17]] 37.

39. (currently amended) A method of activating CD8 \pm T cells in a tuberculosis patient comprising administering to the patient one or more CD8 \pm T cell epitopes of ESAT-6 of *M. tuberculosis*.

40. (new) A method of assaying for peptide-specific effector T cells, which method comprises:

- (a) providing a fluid containing fresh T cells, which have not been cultured *in vitro*, in contact with a surface carrying an immobilized antibody to interferon- γ ,
- (b) presenting to the T cells a T cell-activating peptide,
- (c) incubating the fluid to cause release of said interferon- γ , and
- (d) detecting released interferon- γ bound to said immobilized antibody;

wherein incubation is continued for a time to permit interferon- γ release by only those T cells that have been pre-sensitized *in vivo* to the T cell-activating peptide and are capable of immediate effector function without the need to effect division/differentiation by *in vitro* culture in the presence of the T cell-activating peptide; and said method being is applied to diagnosis or monitoring of infection with an intracellular pathogen.

41. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the intracellular pathogen is selected from the group consisting of hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, *M. tuberculosis*, *P. falciparum*, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and influenza virus.

42. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein a peptide derived from ESAT-6 of *M. tuberculosis* is presented to the T cells.

43. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the T cells are peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

44. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein a peptide of 7-12 amino acid residues in length is added to the T-cell containing fluid, which is recognized by CD8+ T cells.

45. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the resulting fluid mixture is incubated under non-sterile conditions.

46. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the peptide is a known epitope.

47. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein incubation is continued for a time of 4 to 24 hours.

48. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the T cells are taken from a patient known to be suffering, or to have suffered from, infection with an intracellular pathogen.

49. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40 performed to monitor progress of HIV infection.

50. (new) The method as claimed in claim 40 performed to monitor the effect of a vaccine.